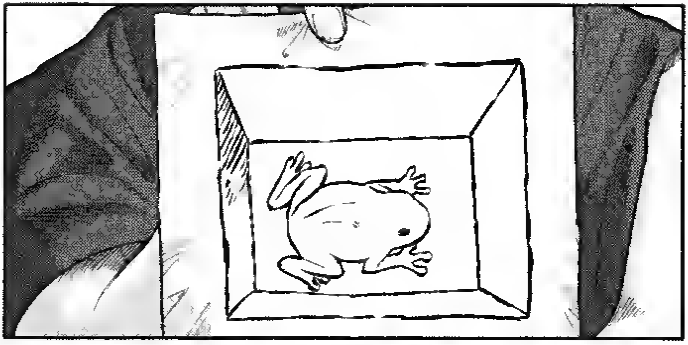
群緑の時雨



IS THIS FROG IN A BOX?
OR IS IT ON A TABLE?

WHICH ONE YOU SEE ALL DEPENDS ON YOUR PERSPECTIVE,
YOU CAN DECIDE IN YOUR OWN HEART WHETHER YOU SEE IT ON THE INSIDE OR OUTSIDE.
YOU COULD SAY THE SAME ABOUT ME TOO.
THE CLOTHES I WEAR, FOR EXAMPLE.
ANOTHER IS THAT I'VE BEEN TOLD THAT MY NAME, KAMOI KAGEYU, IS A RATHER HANDSOME NAME
.....
BUT AT THE SAME TIME I AM AN APATHETIC RONIN WHO IDLES IN PLACES LIKE THIS ALL DAY,
SO PEOPLE MUST THINK; 'HE MUST BE A SUSPICIOUS PERSON...'
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WHA-!
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OW OW OW OW-
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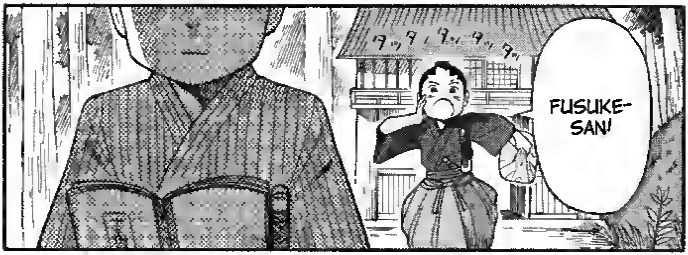
HAHA
THAT GIRL...
SHE KNOWS QUICK DRAW, HUH?

第一幕

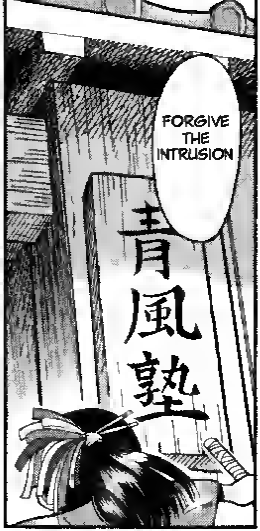

FUSUKE-SAN!

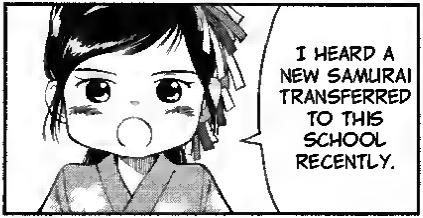
RINTAROU-SAN.

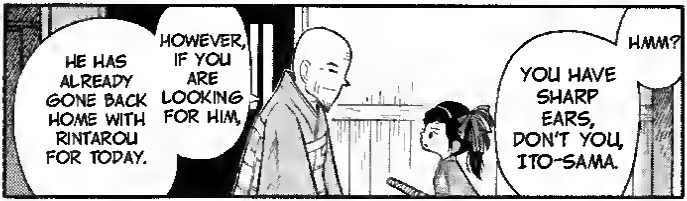
FUJIAN-SENSEI ASKED ME TO ACCOMPANY YOU ON YOUR WAY HOME, SINCE YOU AREN'T FAMILIAR WITH THE ROADS YET.
HURRY ...?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN SUCH A HURRY?
HAH HAH
AND YOU ARE UNAWARE OF YOUR SUR-ROUND-INGS WHEN READING.
YOU WALK WAY TOO FAST.
HAH

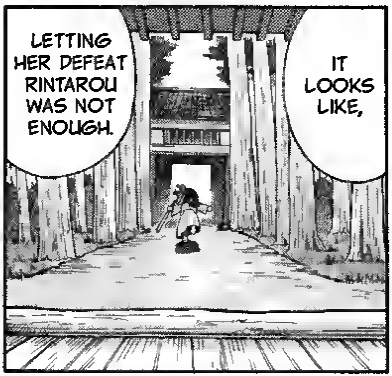
SO YOU ARE AN ADOPTED SON FROM THE SHIKI FAMILY?
YES.
MY PARENTS HAD REQUESTED THAT THE SHIKI FAMILY TAKE ME IN WHEN THEY WERE STILL WELL OFF.
THEY WERE DISTANT RELATIVES FROM MY MOTHER'S SIDE.
IS THAT SO?
THEN OUR CIRCUM-STANCES ARE NOT TOO DIF-FERENT.
OH?
THE NAKATANI FAMILY ADOPTED ME WHEN I WAS 4.
THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT I DON'T REMEMBER MY PARENTS.
AH!
YOU KNOW, ANOTHER INTERESTING COINCIDENCE BETWEEN THE TWO OF US,
IS THAT THOSE FAMILIES THAT OUR PARENTS GAVE US UP TO FOR A BETTER LIFE NOW BOTH LACK POWER AND PRESTIGE!
わはははは

WHAT CAN I HELP YOU WITH TODAY?
AH, IF IT ISN'T ITO-SAMA.


FORGIVE THE INTRUSION
青風塾

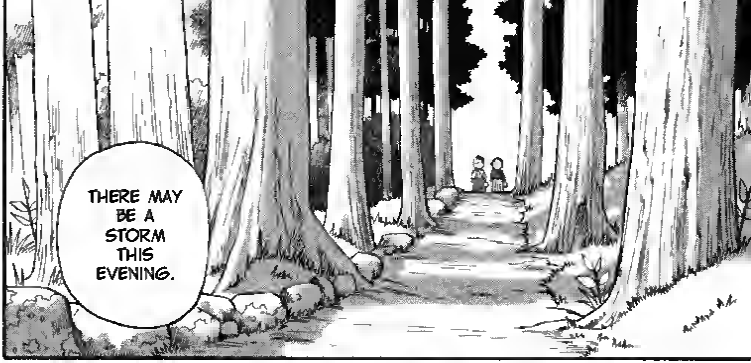

I HEARD A NEW SAMURAI TRANSFERRED TO THIS SCHOOL RECENTLY.

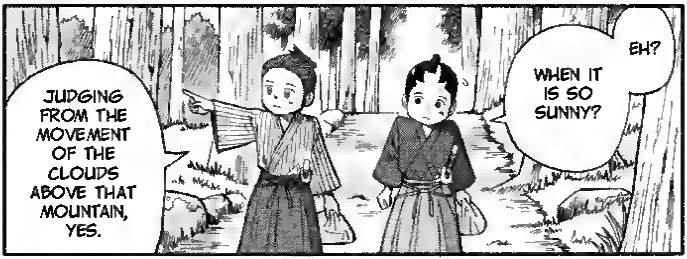

HE HAS ALREADY GONE BACK HOME WITH RINTAROU FOR TODAY.
HOWEVER, IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR HIM,
HMM?
YOU HAVE SHARP EARS, DON'T YOU, ITO-SAMA.

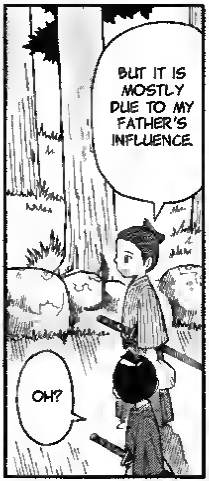

LETTING HER DEFEAT RINTAROU WAS NOT ENOUGH.
IT LOOKS LIKE,

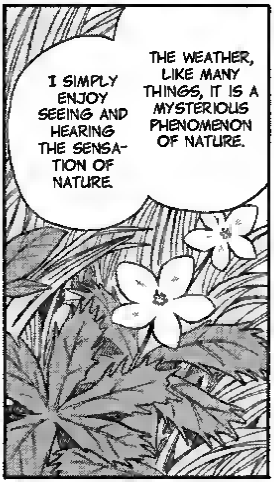
THEN, I WILL COME BACK AT A LATER DAY.
ダーッ

FULIAN-SENSEI SEEMS TO INSTRUCT SWORDS-MANSHIP TOO.
SEEMS QUITE TOUGH, DOESN'T IT?
EH? I WON-DER...
I HEARD HE WAS A FAMOUS SAMURAI BEFORE HE LEFT HIS FAMILY.
BUT, RATHER THAN STRICT, HE OFTEN COMES OFF AS BEING QUITE GENTLE.
HE'S ALSO MADE IT SO ATTENDING HIS SCHOOL IS UNNECES-SARILY AFFORD-ABLE,
BUT WHY?
WAIT THO-UGH,
WHEN I FIRST MET YOU, RINTAROU-SAN, YOUR FACE WAS FILLED WITH BRUISES,
SO CLEARLY HIS TRAINING IS VERY RIGO-ROUS, IS IT NOT?
AH...
YEAH...
THAT WAS... WELL...
?


THERE MAY BE A STORM THIS EVENING.

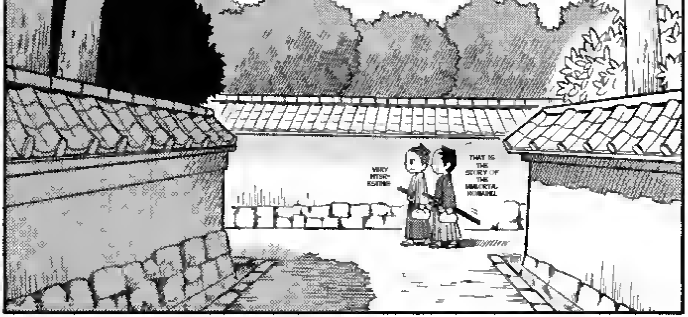

EH?
WHEN IT IS SO SUNNY?
JUDGING FROM THE MOVEMENT OF THE CLOUDS ABOVE THAT MOUNTAIN, YES.

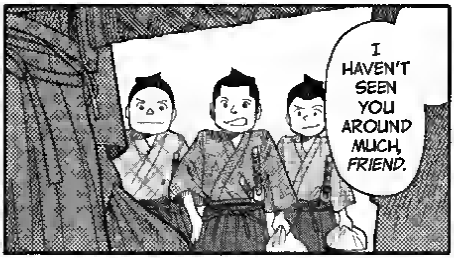

BUT IT IS MOSTLY DUE TO MY FATHER'S INFLUENCE.
OH?

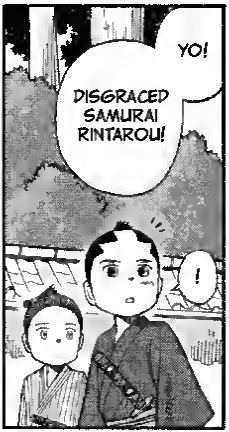

I SIMPLY ENJOY SEEING AND HEARING THE SENSATION OF NATURE.
THE WEATHER, LIKE MANY THINGS, IT IS A MYSTERIOUS PHENOMENON OF NATURE.

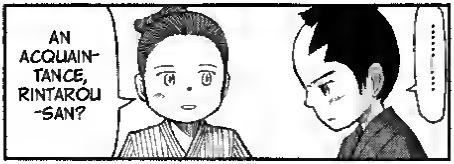
FUSUKE-SAN,
YOU MENTIONED SOMETHING SIMILAR BEFORE,
YOU'RE VERY KNOWLEDGABLE ABOUT THE WEATHER AREN'T YOU?
NO, NOT AT ALL.

RINTAROU-SAN, HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A GREEN STAR SHINE IN THE NIGHT SKY?
A GREEN STAR?
I HEARD OF IT FROM MY FATHER, THOUGH I HAVE NEVER SEEN ONE MYSELF.
HE SEEMED TO HAVE LED A HAPPY LIFE.
IF YOU ALWAYS GAZE UP AT THE SKY,
SOMEDAY, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE IT FOR YOURSELF.
I SEE.
THAT MIGHT BE TRUE.


VERY INTERESTING!
THAT IS THE STORY OF THE SAMURAI RINTAROU.


I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU AROUND MUCH, FRIEND.


YO!
DISGRACED SAMURAI RINTAROU!
!


AN ACQUAIN-TANCE, RINTAROU -SAN?
.....

ALWAYS STAYING QUIET, NEVER SAYING ANYTHING.
.....
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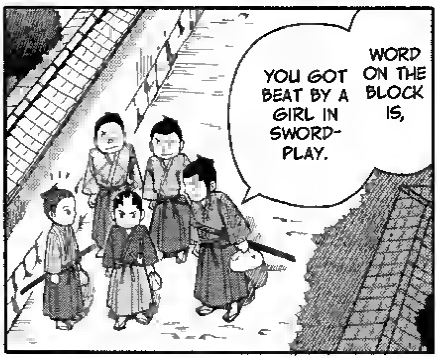
WORD ON THE BLOCK IS,
YOU GOT BEAT BY A GIRL IN SWORD-PLAY.

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I GUESS IT REALLY IS LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON.
A REAL STAIN ON THE LAND OF SAMURAI'S LINEAGE.
OH, YOU WANNA GO?
AND HE RUNS AWAY LIKE ALWAYS.
ゆはははは
RINTA-ROU-SAN!
WAIT, WHERE ARE YOU FROM?
I DON'T REC-OGNIZE YOUR FACE.
ARE YOU FROM THE SAME SCHOOL AS THAT DIS-GRACED SAMURAI?
AH, I SEE.
SINCE YOU HAVEN'T HEARD, I'LL DO YOU A FAVOUR AND TELL YOU,
ABOUT THAT GUY'S FATHER, THAT IS

WELL, RINTAROU?
HIGH ENOUGH?
YES, FATHER!

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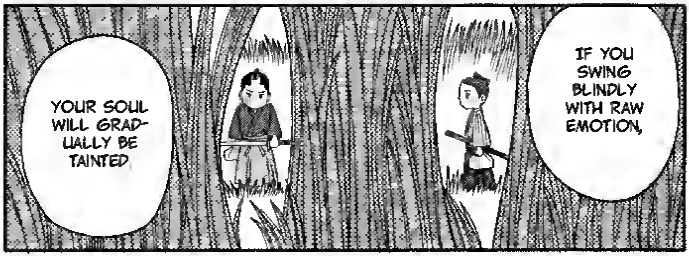
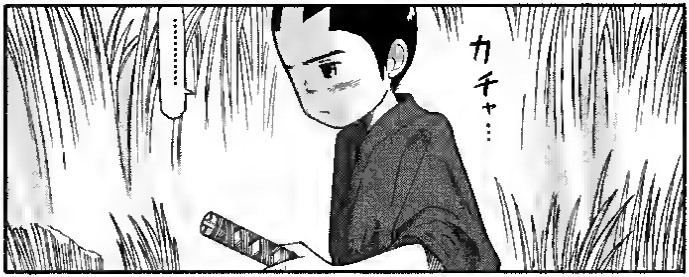
A SWORDSMAN'S SOUL DWELLS ON THE EDGE OF HIS BLADE,
RINTAROU -SAN.


IF YOU SWING BLINDLY WITH RAW EMOTION,
YOUR SOUL WILL GRADUALLY BE TAINTED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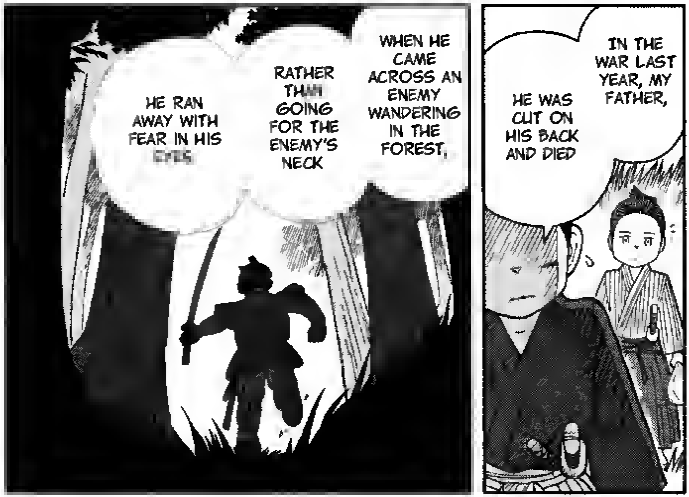
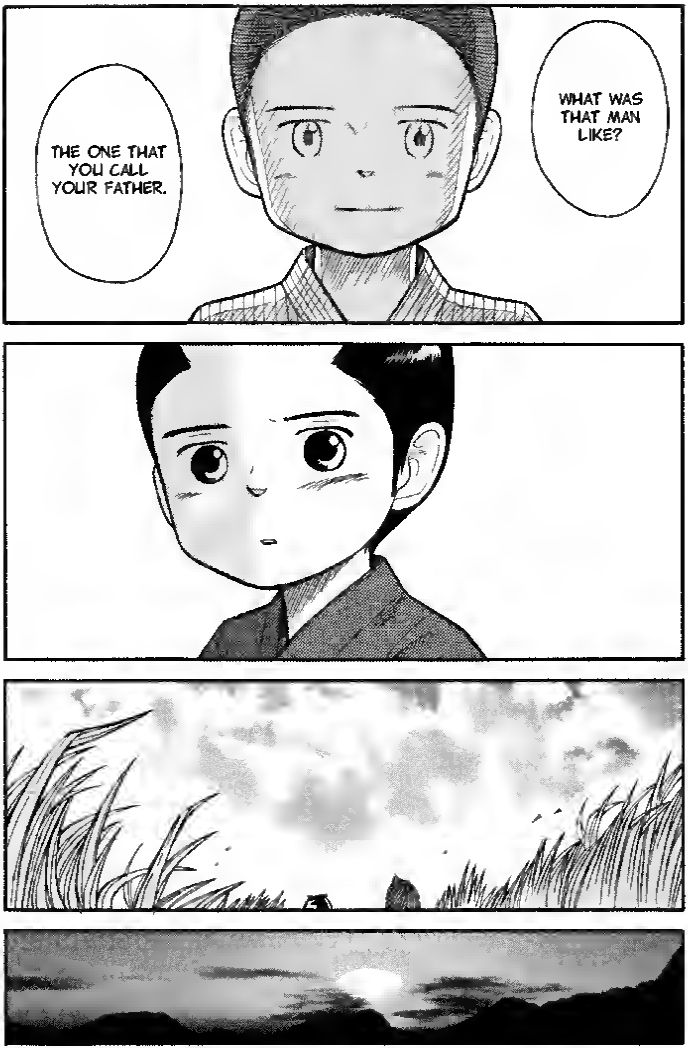
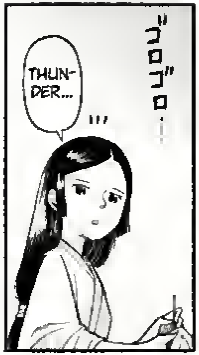

IN THE WAR LAST YEAR, MY FATHER,
HE WAS CUT ON HIS BACK AND DIED
WHEN HE CAME ACROSS AN ENEMY WANDERING IN THE FOREST,
RATHER THAN GOING FOR THE ENEMY'S NECK
HE RAN AWAY WITH FEAR IN HIS EYES

THIS IS WHERE MY NICKNAME 'DISGRACED SAMURAI' COMES FROM...
FOR A SAMURAI WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO PROTECT THIS COUNTRY,
IT WAS THE MOST DISGRACEFUL OF DEATHS.
FOR IN THE END, HIS LEGS BECAME TANGLED IN THE ROOTS AND HE WAS CAUGHT BY THE ENEMY.
THE FOREST WAS A TERRIBLE PLACE TO RUN THOUGH,
WHO ...?
EVERY SAMURAI FROM THE CASTLE KNOWS OF THIS.
RINTAROU -SAN, WHO DID YOU HEAR THIS FROM?
THOSE PEOPLE ARE JUST MAKING UP STORIES WITHOUT CARE FOR WHAT REALLY HAPPENED.
IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO SEE THE TRUTH IN THE TURMOIL OF WAR.
FOR IS IT NOT JUST A RUMOR, OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT HE WAS SLASHED ON HIS BACK?
YOU SHOULD NOT LISTEN TO THOSE PEOPLE,

BUT MY MOTHER HAS ALWAYS TOLD ME NEVER TO FORGET MY PRIDE,
BECAUSE IT IS TRUE THAT FATHER WAS KILLED FROM BEHIND.
I DON'T REALLY, UNDER-STAND IT MYSELF
RINTA-ROU -SAN.
RINTA-ROU -SAN?
DO YOU BELIEVE THOSE STORIES?
.....
CAN BE CALLED NOT HAVING PRIDE.
I DON'T THINK THAT BELIEVING IN WHAT YOU CANNOT SEE,


WHAT WAS THAT MAN LIKE?
THE ONE THAT YOU CALL YOUR FATHER.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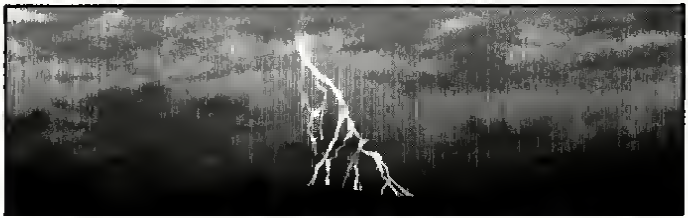
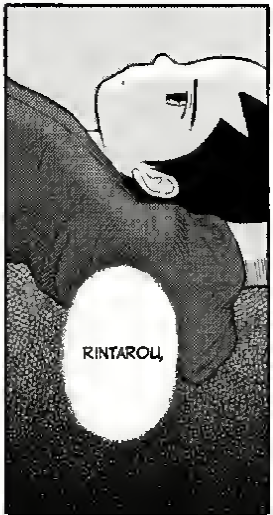
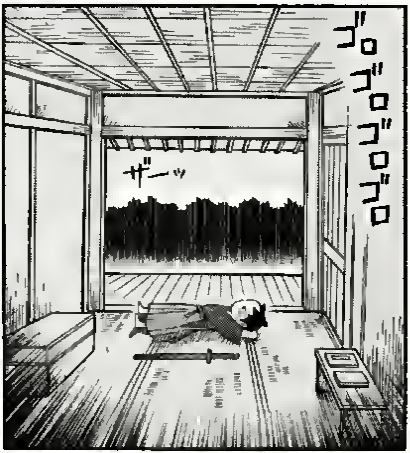
THUN-
DER...
!!!




RINTAROU,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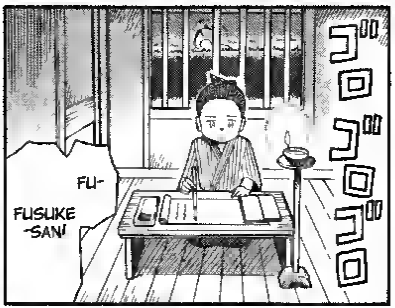
BECAUSE OF HER SICKNESS, YOUR MOTHER CANNOT GIVE BIRTH.
THAT'S WHY, IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO ME,
YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN PROTECT THIS HOUSE.
RINTAROU.
DON'T EVER FORGET YOUR PRIDE.
IF YOU CAN DO THAT, THEN WHATEVER HAPPENS, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO LIVE A LIFE STRONG

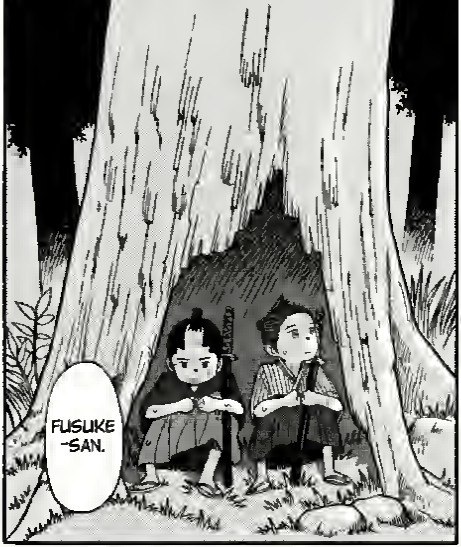
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH

RINTA-ROU -SAN!
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN!
ON A STORMY NIGHT LIKE THIS...


FU-
FUSUKE -SAN!

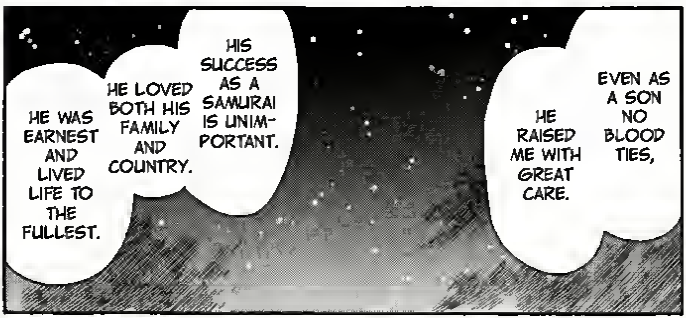
FUSUKE -SAN!

I REMEMBERED,
WHAT MY FATHER TOLD ME ABOUT LONG AGO,
THAT AFTER THE STORM PASSES, THE TOP OF KOKUSOU PAGODA WOULD GLOW.
PAGODA?
YOU SAID IT BEFORE.
THAT GREEN STAR,
I WONDER IF IT IS THE SAME.
ゴゴゴゴゴ…


FUSUKE-SAN.

IT SEEMS LIKE THE RAIN AND LIGHTNING,
HAVE PASSED.

MY FATHER,


EVEN AS A SON NO BLOOD TIES,
HE RAISED ME WITH GREAT CARE.
HIS SUCCESS AS A SAMURAI IS UNIMPORTANT.
HE LOVED BOTH HIS FAMILY AND COUNTRY.
HE WAS EARNEST AND LIVED LIFE TO THE FULLEST.

THAT WAS WHAT HE WAS LIKE,
THE MAN I CALL MY FATHER.
AH! RINTA ROU -SAN!
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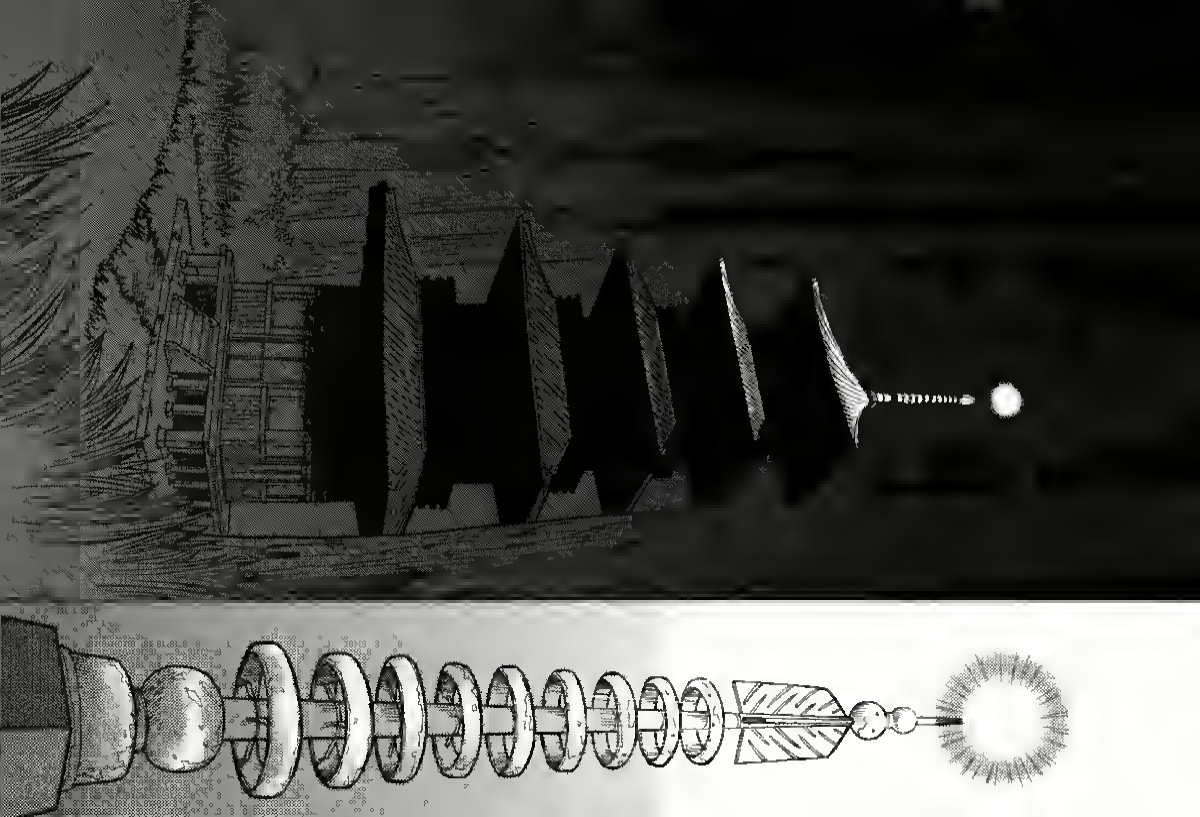

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ガキッ
HM?
FU-SUKE-SAN, WATCH OUT!
!!
UWAH!
ARGHH!

RINTA-ROU -SAN!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT !?
OWW-WWW-WWW ...
RINTA-ROU -SAN.
HA HA HA I THOUGHT I WAS DEAD FOR A MOMENT.
IT WAS GOOD THAT IT DIDN'T FALL ON YOU.
I'M FINE. I'M FINE.
UNGH ...
NO.
MY APOLOGIES, THIS WAS ALL BECAUSE I WAS PREOCCUPIED BY THAT LIGHT.
EH?
DO YOU THINK THAT PERHAPS, YOUR FATHER WAS INJURED FOR THE SAME REASON AS YOU JUST WERE?
THAT WOUND ON HIS BACK.
HOW YOUR FATHER RECEIVED,

Gunryoku no Shigure

Chapter 2

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Cleaner/Redrawer: il42133

Typesetter: il42133

QC: Xevcora, il42133

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